

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claim 1 (currently amended):** A non-contact tonometer comprising:  
an alignment light source for ~~projecting~~ emitting a light flux for alignment ~~[[to]]~~ of a cornea  
~~[[for]]~~ of an eye to be examined;

a projection optical system for projecting the light flux from the alignment light source onto the cornea of the eye to be examined;

image capture means for sensing an image obtained from a reflected alignment light flux which is the light flux projected onto and reflected by the cornea of the eye to be examined;

~~a sensor for capturing an image the eye to be examined;~~

~~image processing means for picking up a plural specific areas directed to light of the light flux for alignment which is reflected by the eye to be examined, within an image signal obtained by the sensor;~~

~~calculation means for calculating a reference value on the basis of the processed image signals obtained on the plural specific areas;~~

~~a cornea deformation means for pressurizing air in a cylinder, and deforming the cornea of the eye to be examined by blowing ~~[[the]]~~ pressurized air onto the cornea of the eye to be examined;~~

~~an intraocular pressure measurement light source for ~~projecting~~ emitting a measurement light flux for measurement ~~[[to]]~~ of an intraocular pressure of the eye to be examined;~~

the projection optical system for projecting the measurement light flux from the intraocular pressure measurement light source onto the cornea of the eye to be examined;

intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means for detecting a reflected measurement light flux which is quantity of the measurement light flux for measurement from projected onto and reflected by the cornea of the eye to be examined; and

~~intraocular pressure calculation means for calculating an intraocular pressure on the basis of an output signal of the intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means and a pressure value in the cylinder; and~~

~~reliability determination means for providing a reliability level of the calculated intraocular pressure on the basis of the output signal of the intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means and the reference value~~

a CPU for determining a reliability level of an output signal which is output from the intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means in comparison with a reference level which is varied on the basis of an intensity of the image sensed by the image capture means.

**Claims 2-4 (cancelled):**

**Claim 5 (withdrawn):** A method of measuring intraocular pressure comprising the steps of:

- projecting an alignment detection light flux to an eye to be examined;
- performing alignment adjustment based on reflected light of the alignment detection light flux;
- blowing a fluid onto the eye to be examined while projecting an intraocular pressure measurement light flux to the eye to be examined;
- receiving reflected light of said intraocular pressure measurement light flux from said eye to be examined and outputting a received light signal;
- determining a reference value to be compared with said received light signal based on received light quantity of said reflected light of the alignment detection light flux, wherein said reference value is based on a brightness of bright points based on image data of an anterior ocular segment at a time of alignment; and
- determining validity of said received light signal by comparing said reference value and a level of the received light signal.

**Claim 6 (withdrawn):** A method of measuring intraocular pressure according to claim 5 further comprising a step of measuring an intraocular pressure value in the case that it is determined that said received light signal is valid.

**Claim 7 (withdrawn):** A method according to claim 5 further comprising a step of displaying the measured value on a monitor in the case that it is determined that said received light signal is valid.

**Claim 8 (withdrawn):** A method of measuring intraocular pressure comprising the steps of:

- projecting an alignment detection light flux to an eye to be examined;

receiving reflected light of said alignment detection light flux from the eye to be examined;

projecting intraocular pressure measurement light flux to the eye to be examined;  
and

determining validity of measurement of the intraocular pressure by comparing a reference value based on a brightness of bright points based on image data of an anterior ocular segment at a time of alignment and determined based on said reflected light of the alignment light flux from said eye to be examined, and a level of reflected light of said intraocular pressure measurement light flux.

**Claim 9 (new):** A non-contact tonometer according to claim 1, wherein the CPU varies the reference level by assigning the intensity of the image sensed by the image capture means to a predetermined conversion formula.

**Claim 10 (new):** A non-contact tonometer according to claim 9, wherein the CPU obtains a peak value from output signals which are time-series signals output from the intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means, and determines a warning level or an error level of signals output from the intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means by comparing the reference level with the peak value.